



## **Secretary Jackson's "Path to Progress" Reception**

**For Immediate Release  
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**FRANKFORT, KY-** January 18, 2008 Secretary Jackson held a "Path to Progress" welcoming reception for Personnel Cabinet employees. The event provided an opportunity for staff to meet the Secretary and employees who are new to the Cabinet. The reception focused on celebrating a new administration, a new day and new opportunities to take the Personnel Cabinet to the next level. As the Cabinet begins the important work of transforming itself from a heavy focus on transaction to a greater focus on service and consultation, the following appointments have been made to help the Cabinet in its pursuit to reshape the employee experience, both within the Cabinet and throughout State Government.

**Tim Longmeyer, Esq.** Deputy Secretary, Personnel Cabinet. Tim was most recently Director of Legislative Affairs for the Jefferson County Attorney's office and brings 10+ years of legal experience to our cabinet. In this role, he tracked legislation that affected various legal associations, coordinated with House and Senate leadership, individual legislators, staff, and agents along with community leaders to promote office and community interests. He also drafted and obtained passage on several important bills that brought additional revenue to Metro Government. Tim is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association. Tim earned his BA from the University of Kentucky majoring in English and History and earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Louisville.

**Sissy Meredith, Ph.D** Executive Director-Office of Governmental Services Center. Sissy comes from a strong educational background as a prior instructor of Public Speaking, Business Communication and Industrial Communication at the University of Kentucky. During her tenure she designed and implemented original curricula for public speaking and organizational communication courses. Sissy is Co-founder of the Graduate Student Association and the Communication Graduate Student Association both of were at UK and Co-author of Getting there: Functional Public Speaking, Waveland Publishing. Most recently, Sissy held the role of Manager, Corporate Manager, Education & Development at Norton Healthcare. Sissy is currently a member of HR Roundtable, UK Gatton College of Business and Economics and Women in Business, Women in Law. Sissy earned her BS in Communications, MA in Instructional Communications, with an emphasis in Anthropology (honors) and Ph. D. in Instructional Communications (honors) all from UK.

**Michél  E. Lawlis** has been appointed Executive Director, Office of Human Resources Planning and Diversity Initiatives. Mich    served as Compliance Officer for the

Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission in her most recent role. Her duties included monitoring and investigating equal opportunity and affirmative action compliance on behalf of Louisville Metro Government. Michelé also planned events to promote diversity through collaborative efforts with federal, state and local agencies and community organizations. Michelé is an appointed member of the International Advisory Board & Speakers Bureau of the Professional Woman Network (PWN) and a professional coach and certified trainer on diversity, women's issues & youth empowerment. Michelé is co-author of *Beyond the Body! Developing Inner Beauty* (PWN Publishing), an international empowerment guide for women. Michelé is the founder of The DIVA Institute which provides customized training, keynote addresses and consulting on women's issues in the workplace, single parenting, youth empowerment, leadership and community engagement. Michelé earned her BA in Political Science from the University of Louisville. Michelé is a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and the National Association of Female Executives.

**Frederick D. Nelson, J.D** - Commissioner of the Department of Employee Insurance. Mr. Nelson brings executive-level experience in multiple areas of insurance to include Health Insurance, Workman's Compensation and Risk Management. Mr. Nelson recently held the post of Director of Risk Management and Safety for the Fayette County School System, covering development, implementation, and direction of all aspects of a comprehensive risk management and safety program. During the Patton Administration, Mr. Nelson helped to build Kentucky Access and served as its Director, under the Department of Employee of Insurance. In addition to his expertise in insurance programs, Mr. Nelson's also offers over 13 years of experience as a practicing attorney. Mr. Nelson received a BA with a double major in philosophy and political science and a Juris Doctor Degree, all from the University of Kentucky.

**Jamie L. Allen** Advisor, HR Strategic Planning- Office of the Secretary. Jamie most recently held the position of Human Resources Specialist for C. W. Johnson Xpress, a Louisville based trucking company. In her most recent assignment, she held orientation for all new hires, maintained personnel files, headed employee recognition projects, and offered conflict resolution. An integral part of the HR Specialist role was to metrically measure the success in the employer funded training program (D.I.D.) which enabled those with checkered pasts to earn a CDL at no cost to the participant. Jamie also processed employment verifications, unemployment benefit requests and new hire reports for various states. As one of the administrators for health, dental, vision and life insurance, Jamie answered questions and received enrollment /change forms during open enrollment and throughout. Ms. Allen attended Tennessee State University and majored in Psychology.

**Crystal D. Pryor, MPA** Chief, Legislative Affairs and Media Relations Liaison -Office of the Secretary. Crystal previously worked in community development, as a grant writer where she administered state and federal development projects for communities in Central Kentucky. In this capacity she assisted in the formulation and implementation of the following grants, projects, contracts and infrastructure related plans: Homeland Security, tourism, transportation, Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, Appalachian Regional Commission and FEMA. Crystal holds certifications with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security and the Community Emergency Response Team. She is currently a member of the American Society for Public Administrators. Ms. Pryor earned a BA in

Government and Communications, with an emphasis in Advertising and Public Relations from Morehead State University and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Kentucky, Martin School for Public Policy and Administration.